

# THE MCGILL DAILY

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Under the wire since 1911

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## York to cut enrollment to fight overcrowding

BY MICHAEL GREENE

**TORONTO (CUP)** — York University plans to cut first year enrollment by over 1500 next year in an effort to deal with overcrowding.

Sheldon Levy, vice president of institutional affairs said that fewer acceptance letters will be sent to prospective students so there will be no growth in the student population.

Levy said the biggest cut will be for first year admissions in the Arts faculty, down from 4500 to 3500. There will also be enrollment cuts in the Fine Arts, Glendon, Science, Administrative Studies, Education and Atkinson faculties.

Even with these changes, classes will still be overcrowded for the next four or five years as current first year students move through the system.

Many students fear the cut in

admission may mean people qualified for post-secondary education will be turned away.

"It's obvious that York has over-enrolled. But cutting enrollment by 1000 is horrifying," said Nikki Gershbnai, president of the York Federation of Students.

According to York University Faculty Association president Brian Abner, there is not much complaint from his members on class sizes.

"Professors are concerned

[about larger classes], but not enough to make a bold move," Abner said.

Abner said the teachers' union proposed a joint faculty and administration committee in 1989 as a way to solve problems such as over-enrollment, but the committee has not been established.

According to a report by the Ontario Federation of Students, universities' share of provincial government spending declined from

six per cent to four per cent between 1978 and 1992.

Over the past year alone, university funding suffered a loss of \$108 million.

Levy and Gershbnai both said that underfunding is directly responsible for next year's cuts.

"Funding is the basic problem," said Gershbnai. "There is no will by the federal or provincial government to fund education."

## Lesbian and Gay Conference sheds new light on Montréal history

BY JAMES FORBES

Last week, professors and students from all over Canada and the States assembled for an unprecedented conference on a seldom discussed facet of Québec's history.

*La Ville en Rose*, a four day colloquium on Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual history in Québec and Montréal, in order to examine the city's queer history on its 350th anniversary.

Organizers billed the colloquium as the first conference of this sort in Québec, an event to "Re-write and reclaim histories that had been left aside or even erased."

Jointly held by Concordia and the Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM), it was mostly the result of work done by Robert Martin and Tom Waugh, two Concordia professors. Because of the nature of their work, both professors have often been forced to present their work abroad, either in the States or in Europe.

Lesbian and Gay studies first became of interest in the 1970s and have been growing ever since. The conference follows an emerging trend in other major cities and universities around the world. Martin and Waugh hope that it will establish a lasting network for Lesbian and Gay studies in Québec.

The conference examined Lesbian and Gay influence on all elements of academia, including topics of gender, image, history and the arts.

Of particular interest was the strong focus of lesbian issues, a subject all too often subverted or marginalized by queer studies. Although only 40 per cent of the speakers at the conference were lesbians, it represents a strong and important trend in the field.

AIDS was also an important focus of the conference. This is particularly pertinent to Montréal,

which has had a long history of AIDS activism. The conference took the opportunity to put the crisis in context of both the Gay and Lesbian communities here in Québec, and explore the reaction to the disease up to the present.

The seminars on Gay issues included many extremely interesting and informative sessions, with an important focus on Gay history in Montréal. Subjects included an analysis of Gay use of Mount Royal in a historical context, the establishment and migration of the Gay Village, and Gay culture in the ur-

ban center of the 20th century.

The conference also addressed the issues of Homophobia within Québec society. It examined the influences of Québec's political movements, particularly the nationalist movement, and examining educational policy in the province, reflecting on how it affected Lesbians and Gays.

Unfortunately, McGill's presence at the conference was practically non-existent. Only four of the hundreds participating were either McGill professors or students.

## Food Banks needed more than ever

*But they are only a band-aid solution, say food bank workers*

BY LISA ARIEMMA

**MONTREAL (CUP)** — The number of people using food banks in Montréal has increased dramatically in the past five years, but Jason Hughes thinks emergency food services should not be carrying the load.

Hughes, a full-time worker at the Nôtre-Dame-de-Grace Food Depot, said all levels of government must work to ensure that food banks are not needed.

"Too many people are relying on food banks these days," said Hughes. "It should be a government responsibility. For example, there should be jobs — not job training. Job training doesn't do much if there are no jobs."

In the Montréal area alone, there are 171 agencies distributing food to Montréalers. And the numbers are rising.

Every Wednesday and Friday the NDG depot fills with residents from NDG and the surrounding area. In one month, Hughes and 15 or 20 other volunteers distribute between 12 000 to 13 000 meals.

The depot is in the basement of Friendly Home, a residence for men on Côte St. Antoine. Its walls feature posters and brochures on housing, racism and pregnancy. There are six large refrigerators in the basement and milk crates serve

as a table for donated clothing.

The depot receives a weekly supply of food from Montréal Harvest, a warehouse food bank that distributes to many of the emergency food agencies in Montréal.

But food banks must also rely on donations from individuals, corporations and other groups.

"Sometimes it's like the cavalry," said Hughes. "We're low on something and someone walks in with it. We're lucky like that."

People with low incomes and welfare recipients are eligible for food aid.

But the clientele is changing. People who have been working all their lives are being laid off and forced to wait up to 12 weeks for unemployment insurance.

"People who thought they were untouchable are being affected," said Tommy Kulczyk, who works for Sun Youth. The organization's emergency food service distributes food to between 4000 and 5000 people per year in the greater Montréal area.

Kulczyk said the poverty in Montréal is a result of several problems, including a high unemployment rate and illiteracy. He said poverty must be viewed in a larger societal context.

Many food banks provide other services. The NDG Food Depot is involved in a project to help preg-

nant women in collaboration with the NDG Centre Locale des Services Communautaires (CLSC). Multi Caf, a food bank and cafeteria in Côte-des-Neiges, offers free language classes and gives multi-language classes and give multi-ethnic information referrals about employment rights, discrimination and health care.

David Alper is a full-time employee at Multi Caf, a food bank in Côte des Neiges. He said food banks are a band-aid solution to the community's poverty issues.

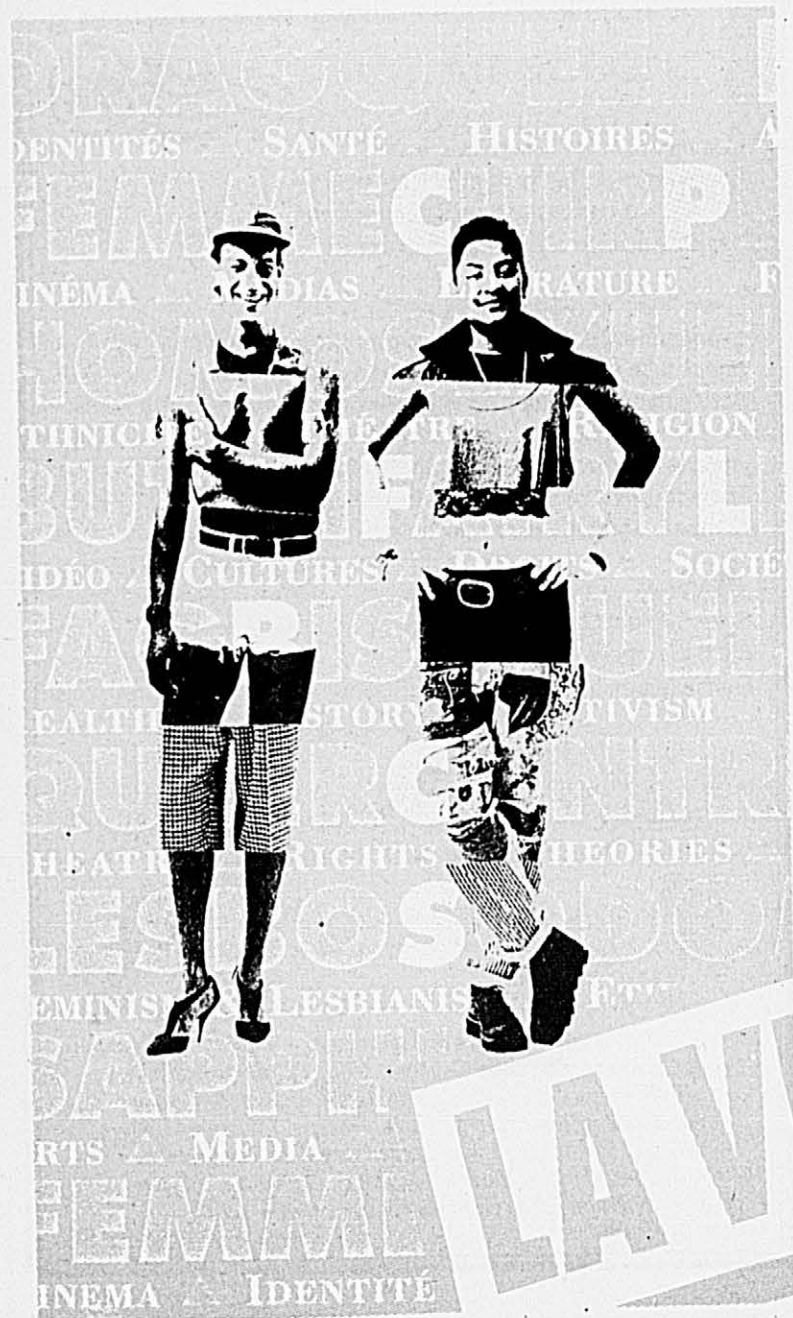
"Food aid is not the solution," he said. "We need changes in government policy, full employment and an adequate minimum wage."

He said Multi Caf was distributing 40 food baskets per month in 1986. This year more than 500 families use the food bank each month.

According to John Kinloch, of the Canadian Food Bank Association, more than 2 million Canadians rely on emergency food services each year. Forty per cent of them are children.

In November of 1989, the federal parliament unanimously endorsed a proposal to end child poverty by the year 2000. But Kinloch said he hasn't seen much progress.

"I don't see the political commitment," said Kinloch. "It's really quite outrageous."





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# Malcolm X and the Media

MAINSTREAM MEDIA MISREPRESENTS THE MAN AND HIS MESSAGE

by  
David Austin



A MAJOR CONTRADICTION of capitalism is that major corporations, regardless of how dependent they are on conservative ideologies, will not hesitate to commercialize absolutely anything that seems profitable. This includes elements that would otherwise be deemed subversive and adamantly opposed to the system. Such is the case with Time Warner's distribution of Ice T's "Cop Killer" and, more recently, with the distribution of Spike Lee's movie *Malcolm X*.

Often this type of commercialization is far from straightforward. A recent *Newsweek* article is a typical example of how the commercialization of an individual's personality and ideas leads to ambiguity and confusion on the part of the reader, and can allow for deliberate misrepresentation.

## Newsweek joins the crowd

IN THE PAST few months there has been a array of articles, reviews, commentaries, and interviews, all in anticipation of Spike Lee's upcoming movie *Malcolm X*. Magazines covering the entire political spectrum have featured *Malcolm X*, Denzel Washington as *Malcolm X*, or Spike Lee on their covers. Most of these magazines have written on various issues concerning *Malcolm X* and the movie — from the allotted budget of the film to various opinions on whether Spike Lee is capable of interpreting *Malcolm X* accurately.

*Newsweek* has not ignored this new-found interest in *Malcolm X*. Their latest issue features *Malcolm X* on the cover. This comes as no surprise, as some of the most conservative and unlikely magazines have written extensive arti-

Department. Gates has made a name for himself blaming African-Americans for America's social ills and deformations.

The quotes were obviously invoked to suggest that the majority of young Black people do not know what *Malcolm X* represented. *Newsweek* states that "most whites today know and care little about *Malcolm X*" and that "even among African-Americans...only half have clear knowledge of who he was and what he stood for."

It would be interesting to know what criteria *Newsweek* used to determine "what *Malcolm X* stood for" and how much African-Americans know about him? Who was the judge?

If it is true that most whites do not know or care about who *Malcolm X* was, it is because the mainstream media has yet to deal properly and truthfully with *Malcolm X*. Even after certain life experiences caused *Malcolm X* to re-evaluate some of his previous beliefs, the media continued to depict *Malcolm X* as a person filled with hate, and a preacher of violence.

What *Malcolm X* represents to the African-American, especially the young, really can not be measured by a poll. He has and does represent a symbol of strength and opposition to the structures that exclude most African-Americans from America's social and political processes.

Not only did he articulate what many Black people were feeling during the 1950's and 60's,

ernments and their institutions.

The article speaks of the "good *Malcolm X*...the eloquent advocate of Black enlightenment, self-respect and self-reliance" as opposed to "the tall red-haired mulatto who called white people devils." That *Malcolm X* is described as a mulatto is a curious indiscretion by the authors of the article. One could easily overlook this apparent error were it not for the sordid circumstances which brought about *Malcolm X*'s reddish-brown complexion.

## Malcolm's grandmother raped

MALCOLM'S GRANDMOTHER, BORN in Grenada, was raped by a white man, resulting in his mother's seemingly white appearance. *Malcolm X* learned to hate what this rape and his resulting light complexion had come to represent. To *Malcolm X* his reddish brown complexion was symbolic and reminiscent of the brutal, insidious experience of slavery which brought Africans to the Americas. The rape of *Malcolm X*'s grandmother and the brutal murder of *Malcolm X*'s father by the Klu Klux Klan are all part of the many disturbing experiences that shaped *Malcolm X*'s life and contributed to his well directed anger. To ignore this is far from conducive to understanding him.

In addition, the above mentioned quote implies that *Malcolm X* spent his early life as one of the key exponents for the Nation of Islam simply calling white people "devils". While it cannot be denied that *Malcolm X* did call white people devils in his early days, it was never the focus of his early active life.

Before he "transformed", *Malcolm X* spoke of the importance of history in understanding the present struggles of African peoples' social, economic, and political development — in spite of resistance to this by the white America — and he was more than capable of analyzing and articulating the problems that Black people faced and still face in an inherently racist America.

*Malcolm X* is consistently depicted as a violent person. Nothing is farther from the truth. In fact *Malcolm X* spoke out against the violence enacted on African-Americans by the police (supposedly committed to serve and protect all American citizens) as well as by deranged groups such as the Klu Klux Klan.

*Newsweek* interprets *Malcolm X*'s call for Blacks in Harlem to form rifle clubs as a "a psychological alternative: a way of talking back, if not fighting back." This is conjecture and simply not true. Anyone who has heard *Malcolm X* towards the end of his life cannot mistake how serious he was. African-Americans were the victims of savage attacks at the hands of the police and other racist groups. The government and authorities were unwilling and/or incapable of preventing this.

In fact it was the authorities that were generally responsible for the violence and the climate of hate towards Blacks in America. *Malcolm X* could not understand why people made such a fuss of his suggestion. He said that "White people had been taking up rifles all along without any commotion" yet when Black people decide to do so it creates hysteria.

It was perfectly legal to form rifle clubs. That *Malcolm X*'s suggestion caused such alarm among

whites and in the press is indicative of the perception that many white people have of Black people — the image of the violent and dangerous criminal itching to revenge years of violence and oppression. That is an issue that certainly has to be dealt with by those whites who suffer from this self-indulgent fear and guilt. *Newsweek*, however, is in no position to interpret *Malcolm X*'s own words in any way, other than what he said himself.

*Malcolm X* was perhaps the first major public figure to openly speak out against the Vietnam War. He was quick to expose the contradiction in the American government imploring African-Americans to turn the other cheek in spite of the violence being carried out against them, while America practiced violence in Korea and Vietnam.

*Newsweek* also referred to *Malcolm X* as a "militant troublemaker." This implies that the victim and product of centuries of American violence and abuse, exploitation, and persecution, — the victim — is now the victimizer and the very people that have and still do benefit from the atrocities carried out on Africans in America — white people — are victims. This is a deceitful twist of the truth.

The *Newsweek* article fails to convey the impact *Malcolm X* had on American society and eventually the world. Prior to the emergence of *Malcolm X*, Martin Luther King was very much considered a radical troublemaker by whites in America. *Malcolm X*'s emergence forced America to accept Martin Luther King as the leader of the civil rights movement and the struggle for equality of African-Americans.

## Waking up the world

MALCOLM HAD TRAVELLED to Africa and many other parts of the world and had spoken to heads of states of Africa, Asia and the Americas as well as people who recently gained independence. Hence he, more than anyone else in America, was able to articulate the problems that existed in the "Third World" as a result of western neo-imperialism and particularly at the hands of the United States.

Not only did he point out the sordid role of the United States in Vietnam, but he was quick to point to the U.S.'s hand in the Belgian Congo (Zaire) in deposing Patrice Lumumba and establishing the likes of Tshombe and later Mobutu in power. African leaders who have taken steps to unite African people around the world have been destroyed by powerful forces like the U.S. government. Such is the case with Marcus Garvey, DuBois, Kwame Nkrumah, Lumumba, and Sankara.

And *Malcolm X* was relentless. By broadening his scope to incorporate the problems confronting the "Third World", and Africa in particular, he probably insured his untimely but inevitable death. His call for pan-African unity sent chills up the spine of the U.S.'s intelligence agencies who recognized the inherent danger to their economic and political interest, in the unity of Africa and its people.

He woke up the world with his sharp and electrifying speeches as he indicted American society for its crimes. He was invited to speak

continued on page eight

## What Malcolm represents to the African-American, especially the young, really can not be measured by a poll.



cles on him. What does come as a surprise is that *Newsweek* depicts *Malcolm X* in a seemingly favourable light. But a careful reading between the lines of the article reveals an image of *Malcolm X* which is far from accurate.

Under the guise of sound journalism, the *Newsweek* article reinterprets *Malcolm X*'s own words and ideas, diluting them and sanitizing them. What we end up with is a "transformed" *Malcolm X*, very unlike the *Malcolm X* that lived.

The article starts out with a poem by the African-American poet Benson Wheeler which writes "...X...X...X...X/Now that *Malcolm X*'s dead.../Though His body's been Dead/Damn near Thirty Years Now.../Yes...I'm sure *Malcolm X* loves/His name scrawled all over/Drug peddlers backs/X...X...X marks the spot/X...Gang violence/X...babies having babies/X...Illiteracy is cool/I'm sure Brother *Malcolm X* love/The way his philosophy is held in those young black fists/Delivering fiery resolve/To trivial issues..."

Succeeding the poem is a quote from Wheeler which reads "The large majority of folks don't know where to tell you to find a copy of *Malcolm X Speaks* but ask them about an X hat: you can get one on every corner." There is also a quote by the notorious Henry Louis Gates, the African-American literary critic and chair of Harvard's African-American Studies

but he also offered alternative solutions to those endorsed by the more acquiescent civil rights activists. Though many young Blacks have not read *Malcolm X* they certainly know that he was adamantly opposed to the pernicious and inherently racist nature of Western societies and their impact on the rest of the world.

## Malcolm commercialized

CERTAINLY, AND SADLY, *Malcolm X* has become commercialized. For many he has been reduced to a few phrases such as "by any means necessary." But it certainly is not Black people who profit from his commercialization. Pathfinder Books has the commercial rights to sell many of *Malcolm X*'s speeches and it is companies such as Time Warner and *Newsweek* which are making plenty of money simply by putting *Malcolm X* on their magazine covers.

For Henry Louis Gates and *Newsweek* to suggest that *Malcolm X* is being commercialized and that those wearing X hats and X clothing are superficial amounts to nothing more than cowardice on the part of Gates and deliberate blindness by the *Newsweek* writers. It is always much safer to look at the effects than at the cause, particularly when looking at the cause of America's social ills involves looking deep within the structure of American and Western gov-



# Living on the Lowest Common Denominator

Bureaucratic nightmare faced by welfare recipients

BY NOAH QUASTEL

**A**S IF being on welfare wasn't bad enough. People who can't find work and need help find themselves faced with a bureaucratic organization seemingly designed to deny them money.

After the introduction of Law 37 four years ago, welfare recipients have been confronted with an increasingly bewildering array of red tape. It has become increasingly difficult for recipient to know what programs they are eligible for, or how much money they should be receiving. Many welfare recipients find that their cheques have been cut or decreased without

knowing the reasons why.

McGill Social work professor Eric Shragge said the complications of the welfare system is at least partially deliberate.

"The idea of welfare is to structure it to make it difficult," said Shragge. "If registering for McGill was as difficult as receiving welfare, there would not be so many students here. I am always amazed at how recipients get into the system."

Jean Lalonde of the Pt. St. Charles Welfare Rights Committee agreed.

"The laws are very complex," said Lalonde. "People are not generally in-

formed about what is available." Lalonde claimed welfare agents cannot be relied upon to give all the relevant information.

"It is commonplace that welfare agents do not tell recipients what benefits they can get," Lalonde said. "In practice, most people get channeled to the lowest possible payments."

One example Lalonde gave was that welfare will give people extra allowances if they have high fixed expenses, but if a recipient does not already know this, the agents will not mention it.

"I don't know for sure, but Québec welfare must have a policy of some sort for agents not to give people information," said Lalonde. "If all welfare recipients applied for participation in the various available programs, the difference would be hundreds of millions of dollars, so from money alone one can conclude that agents are told to obscure information."

Lalonde said the new set of laws made it especially difficult for people. "It used to be that two people could compare their cheques. Now it is impossible to sort one's way out if one is not in contact with rights groups. If people do not get information from their agents, they miss out on settlements."

"The differences can be as much as one to two thousand dollars a year, which is a lot if you're trying to live on \$7000 a year," he said.

Arleyne Coombs, who works at Face à Face, a centre for homeless people, said people who come to Face à Face often do not understand the system. "There are 133 different categories, even we do not understand the system," she said.

Coombs said welfare recipients often do receive cheques only to find unexplained deductions. "Clients that come to Face à Face say that the people are close lipped," she said. "The welfare office is not there to give

information."

When applying for welfare, many homeless people use Face à Face as an address, as the welfare rules stipulate that one needs an address in order to receive a first cheque. But under Law 37, recipients are fined \$98 for sharing accommodation, and Face à Face is considered a shared address. This leaves single people with only \$400 dollars a month to live and find a residence, buy food, clothing, and pay for additional expenses.

The NDG Anti-Poverty Group is preparing a report on Law 37 that will be released in December. It includes a survey of 125 people, and asks them about their knowledge of the system. "The report found that people just do not know what categories they fit into," said Charles Carter of the NDG Anti-Poverty Group.

## Welfare Agents

WELFARE AGENTS, hired by the government to give money to those who need it, are often overworked and under-prepared, making life difficult

David Alper, a community organizer at Multi Caf, a food bank and community cafeteria in Côte-des-Neiges, said the responses of welfare agents was one of the biggest problems facing recipients. "Many are racist," he said.

Alper said that immigrants and minorities regularly come to Multi Caf, and have complaints against particular agents. "Of course agents are not going to inform immigrants of their rights," he said.

"But agents are overworked," added Alper. "Often they just do not have the time to explain rights."

Roland Clattenbourgh, of St. Columba House Welfare Rights Group complained that there was a high turnover of agents. "One cannot rely on having an agent that knows one's file," said Clattenbourgh. "You know a situation where there is no continuation of files, and no portfolios are transferred from old to new agents," he said.

But under Law 37, welfare agents are granted the ability to make judg-



## Welfare rights group listings

**St. Columba House Welfare Rights Group:** Located in a United Church-run community centre which also houses a women's group and the newspaper Info-Pointe. 2365 Grand Trunk. 932-5916.

**Comité Chômage Sud-Ouest:** Puts out a guide on UI in French, English and Spanish. 4190 Notre Dame O. 933-5913.

**Verdun Anti-Poverty Group:** 768-1067

**Organisation des Assisté-e-s Sociaux:** 2515 de l'Île #209. 932-4045.

**Alerte Centre-Sud:** 1710 Beaudry #34. 521-0467.

**Organisation Populaire des Droits Sociaux:** 2398 Olivier Robert. 524-6996

**Comité Chômage de l'est de Montréal:** 1691 Pie-IX. 521-3283

**Coalition for the Rights of Welfare Recipients:** Linda Lemay—274-3401, or Jean-Lalonde—935-5916

**Face à Face:** Welfare check pick-up for homeless people. Advice and referrals. Next to CLSC in the Guy Métro. Mon-Fri 9h-17h00. 934-4546.

**Movement Action Chômage:** Info meetings on UI each Monday 13h00, Wednesday 19h00, and Thursday 13h00. 6839A Drolet, #304. 271-4099.

**Welfare Hotline:** Tuesday and Thursday 10h00 to 14h00. 694-6405.

**NDG Anti-Poverty Group:** 6525 Somerland #7. 489-3548

**Mile End Welfare Rights Group:** Info on welfare laws and individual advocacy. Wednesday 13h00 to 16h00, 274-3401.

**Pte St Charles Community Clinic:** 500 Ash. 937-9251





## Employment program causes problems

A PROGRAM INTENDED to allow welfare recipients to gain work experience and skills has a number of serious drawbacks.

According to Law 37, welfare recipients have the option of signing up for a work experience program or having \$100 docked from their cheques. One of the most common programs is the "Expérience de travail" or EXTRA program.

The government gives employers money to take on people through the program for a limited time. But while employers can rely on receiving a certain amount of money from the government, workers have no such safeguards. Some EXTRA workers will have as much as \$100 added on to their welfare cheques, while others can receive as little as \$13.

And participants in the EXTRA program are vulnerable to abuses from employers, and lack the same rights that other employees enjoy.

"The problem is that the 10 000 people participating in the work programs are still classified as welfare recipients," said David Alper of the community cafeteria Multicaf. "Which means that they are not eligible to receive unemployment insurance, not allowed to organize unions, not entitled to compensation benefits in case of injury, and are not protected against sexual harassment in the work site."

There are penalties for leaving the EXTRA program, but recipients often are not told this. If someone leaves the EXTRA program, they will lose not only their EXTRA earnings, but will also receive a \$100 per month penalty.

"Its cut first, ask questions later," said Jean Lalonde of the Pointe St. Charles welfare rights group. If the welfare office has made a mistake you can appeal, "but your check is already cut to a level that does not cover bare necessities," Lalonde said.

But upon entering a welfare office one is not likely to find much written information on the EXTRA program. "All that is available is one pamphlet," said Roland Clattenborough who volunteers with the St. Columba House Welfare Rights Group. "The pamphlets do not tell you the down side of the program," he said. One is not informed about penalties for not participating.

Recipients have the choice not to participate in the EXTRA program. But Lalonde said that often agents will not tell recipients they have the choice to participate. "People are often asked to sign as non-participants," he said.

ments on individuals cases without reprimand. "When you go to an agent he has last word on the cheque," Clattenborough said.

"Under Law 37, if an agent does not give correct information, nobody has to answer," said Charles Carter of the NDG Anti-poverty group.

A review process is available for people who want to appeal the decisions of agents. "But the review process can take five months," said Lalonde. "In that time one can lose one's apartment," he said.

Clattenborough suggested that requiring welfare agents to have backgrounds in sociology or social work would make them more sympathetic to people's needs. Social workers in other provinces are required to have Social Work degrees, but this has never been required in Québec.

But Professor Shragge disagreed with Clattenborough. "I do not think it would help much," he said. "People with social work degrees are hired into repressive systems in other places, but are still just as effective in carrying out bureaucratic rules from above," he

said.

Welfare recipients belonging to Québec's linguistic minorities face additional problems when dealing with the welfare system. Services in English are often inadequate, and services in other languages nonexistent.

"The law states that services are offered in both languages, but they're not," said Clattenborough. Clattenborough said often people are not told that they have the right to service in English.

Multi Caf has numerous Anglophone and immigrant regulars. Faced with a lot of people who were unilingual anglophone in the community, Multi Caf tried to distribute their pamphlets in the local welfare office. Said Alper, "the old manager, George Dupuis, would only let us leave our pamphlet there if it was exclusively in French." As the pamphlets were also in English, they could not leave the pamphlets there. A new manager later let them leave the pamphlets. "It just shows how arbitrary things are at the offices," said Alper.

Alper said there were no services

for people who do not speak English or French. "If you do not speak English or French I do not know what you would do, he said. "There are certainly no pamphlets published in Spanish."

### Groups as Middlemen

THE MORE the government neglects basic services, the more advocacy groups have to direct their efforts toward helping individuals with their immediate problems rather than pushing for changes to the welfare structure. By giving money to food banks, for instance, the government institutionalizes them as a form of social service, rather than remedying the conditions which make them necessary.

The government is relying more and more on anti-poverty groups to give out information and help people through the system.

Advocacy groups work as middlemen," said Carter. The NDG anti-poverty group deals with complaints from people having trouble with the welfare system, and helping the government process appeals.

Carter added that increasing people employed by community groups such as the NDG anti-poverty group are on employment programs such as Expérience de travail (EXTRA), created through Law 37. (see sidebar)

Alper agreed that work programs such as EXTRA serve as a way for the government to offset its responsibilities. "Governments are only too happy to let community groups do this work," he said. "It costs the government less if we do the services."

Lalonde said welfare offices were relying on advocacy groups to help illiterate people fill out forms.

"Applicants who do not read or write are just sent to us," said Lalonde. "Illiteracy is not considered a handicap by welfare."

Louis Démarré, of Communication Québec, a telephone information service run by the province, confirmed what Lalonde said. "We refer people either to welfare or to advocacy groups," said Démarré.

Representatives of the Québec welfare office were not available for comment.



# THE MCGILL DAILY

comment

## Straight Sex and AIDS

Straight people don't get AIDS.

No, I don't mean they can't contract the HIV virus. What I mean is that the heterosexual community has a real problem with education and awareness. The message about the dangers of AIDS is just not getting out.

AIDS has been around for almost a decade now. In this short time, the media has presented it to us in many different forms. But despite the information made available through the efforts of volunteers and activists, too many myths are still circulating, and too few people are practicing safer sex.

New information keeps coming out regarding the condition. Researchers recently revealed that HIV, the virus believed to cause AIDS, has many different strains. Those who have acquired one strain are still in danger of catching another strain which can cause further complications to their health.

We are all people living with AIDS. This means dangerously little to most people.

Misinformation attitudes have continued to spread the virus. AIDS and HIV is a clinical condition which is all too often seen as a moral issue. We have to alter the way we think about the syndrome, and start thinking about how it affects us as a community and as individuals.

"Who" is at risk is not as important as "how" we are at risk. Originally, women were told that they were not a "high risk group." AIDS is currently the second principal cause of death in women ages 20 to 49. Seventy-five per cent of people developing AIDS are heterosexual, and the number of women developing AIDS is steadily on the rise.

Thankfully, things have changed. The media no longer talks about high risk groups, the focus is — and should always have been — on high risk activity. Unfortunately, too many people are still not protecting themselves.

In a survey done in the U.S., only 17 per cent of students surveyed were practicing safer sex.

Safer sex is not "romantic" but neither is chronic yeast infection, kaposi sarcoma, TB or many of the other conditions which can develop if you are HIV positive. The gay community has transformed the clinical talk on safer sex and has eroticized it. The heterosexual community must to adopt similar or other tactics to educate themselves.

Whether you decide to get tested or not does not matter so much as practicing safer sex. Whether you are HIV positive or not you should practice safer sex.

Kate Kung



All readers are welcome to submit letters under 300 words. Add your name, program, year and telephone number. Anonymity can be provided; talk to an editor beforehand. Opinions can be expressed in the form of a Hyde Park, no more than 500 words.

## Letters...

cannot be racist.

What is ludicrous is that we are required to reiterate what hooks so astutely illuminated in her own words. Probably not even our comments have brought Mr. Hay out of denial, he does possess white privilege. Why else would he so adamantly refuse to give it up? It is not the victims he should blame for perpetuating oppression, but his own desire to maintain his white privilege.

McGill Anti-Racism Working Group  
Campus Watch Committee

### Individual despite the group

To the Daily:

Response to Melony Jamieson —

You apparently do not understand why Daniel Koffler doesn't sign his letters "President, Hillel." (Obviously, you are enamored with Yousef Arafat, who signs "President, PSN" without expanding the acronym. Does this imply shame on his part?) It therefore seems you need a lesson in the difference between the individual and the group. (By the way, I am not defending Koffler's actions — not only am I sure that he's perfectly capable of effecting his own defense, should he find your attack worth the effort, but I don't have his permission to do so — I don't even know him.)

So what's the difference between the individual and the group? Daniel Koffler, the individual, doesn't disappear when he becomes president of Hillel. Say Koffler patronizes Super Sexe. Must he make clear upon entry that he's president of Hillel? Is he in fact representing Hillel while watching nude dancers? Do I have to answer this?

Now suppose Koffler attends a Canadian Jewish Congress meeting. He is probably representing Hillel — presumably he therefore introduces himself as President of Hillel House.

So what about Koffler's letters to the Daily? Apparently, Koffler was acting as Koffler the individual. There are many explanations — for example, Hillel may simply have not been involved. Mr. Koffler can act alone — what is inexcusable is for a leader to ascribe personal views to an organization.

So what about Arafat? He's signed his

letters "President, PSN." This must mean that the PSN has approved these political letters. We can only conclude that PSN is a political organization (whether they've changed two words in their constitution or not). Thus, PSN has not received SSMU funding.

This Ms. Jamieson, was your much needed lesson on the difference between the individual and the group.

Jeremy Michelson  
U3 Chemistry & Physics

### Pobody's Nerfect

To the Daily:

It is usually taken for granted that students, upon entering university, have already attained a certain level of knowledge that will permit them to complete their degree: they should be able to read, know their multiplication tables, tie their shoes...you know, basic things. Unfortunately, it seems that proper spelling is not among the basic requirements for a Daily journalist. In a recent (November 9) article by Glen Harris entitled "Parc Avenue Speedway", I counted 11 blatant spelling errors and more than a couple of serious sentence structure faux pas. A short while later (November 12), Daily Culture journalist Christine Varga committed 13 spelling errors in her short article about a new series of dance performances.

It is hard to understand how these mistakes cannot be prevented; most of them are due simply to carelessness and the apparent inability of the Daily writers to proofread their material (I have a good dictionary the Daily can borrow since I guess they lost theirs). How can we be expected to take the newspaper seriously when we learn that ambulances arrive "...on theseen," (sic) in Mr. Harris' article, or read the same name spelt three different ways in Ms. Varga's review (is it Ms. Lantagne, Lagtagne, or Langtagne?!). Errors such as these detract from the content and plausibility of the articles. Lately, I am impressed if I can get all the way through an article without finding mistakes.

Unfortunately, the Daily staff are not the only people at McGill to lack spelling ability. Most of the printed material I

read, by students and staff alike, is riddled with unnecessary errors. It is frightening to realize that the majority of Montréal citizens cannot differentiate between such basic words as *its* and *it's*, as is evidenced by the misuse of these words in advertisements and storefront signs.

Please, please preserve the dying art of spelling and learn to proofread material!

Melissa Aronchick

### Where the streets have no name

To the Daily:

I had to go through three dictionaries to find out what "ontological" meant, used by Matthew Pollard, PhD3, German (Letter to the Daily, November 16, 1992). If there's some new study purporting the cancer risks of TA unions, I want to know about it. Well, the *American Heritage Dictionary* didn't have it, and neither did *Webster's New Ninth*. Finally, in *The Concise Oxford Dictionary, fifth edition* (1964), I found it. Ontological: the branch of metaphysics concerned with the essence of being of things in the abstract. All that to say that the TA union doesn't really exist yet because they couldn't get enough TA's to support it. I did not, however, have to look up the definition of *puerile*. I had your article sitting right in front of me. You call Mr. McDonald the wet dream of an abusive employer for being content with the work and pay conditions he accepted as a TA (yes, he is a TA) and graduate student, after sarcastically belittling him for actually basing his choice in school on those conditions? Why do you think he's satisfied? Perhaps if you had been clever enough to read your correspondence, you would be receiving superior remuneration for your teaching assistance; of course if you were *that* clever, you would also be able to count words in an essay so you don't exceed maximum length by over a third. As for "glucose compounds," I have a BSc bio-organic chemistry; let me write about glucose-perhaps your letters will make more sense written in German.

Andrew Bono  
MScI, Earth and Planetary Sciences

## Letters

### Racism only for powerful

To the Daily:

Ian Hay's obvious incompetence in understanding hooks' interrogation of the white supremacist society in which we live hints at his underlying fear of the truth of her words.

Could it be a reluctance to relinquish the institutionalized power that promotes this systemic oppression of people of colour in order to serve his own interests? Yes, Mr. Hay, the "traditional holders" which hooks so carelessly neglected to identify are white middle-class heterosexual males.

His letter demonstrates a gross misinterpretation of hooks' points. Hay cites tokenism to challenge hooks' rightful claim that all oppressions are perpetuated by the same "interlocking

systems of domination."

A token person, however, does not share the institutionalized power which allows s/he to coercively abuse and deny power to entire races of people. A token person is one out of millions — her/his 'success' hardly redresses the imbalance of power.

Mr. Hay then condemns hooks' "ludicrous apologist", demanding that she admit blacks can be racist. He is missing her implicit differentiation between prejudice and racism. Anyone can be ethnocentric or prejudiced merely by holding certain views. In order to be racist, however, one requires the support of the institutionalized power structures which permits the systematic oppression of entire races. People of colour are not supported by these structures — they



SINCE 1911

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# classified ads

Ads may be placed through the Daily business office, Room B-17, Union Building, 9h00-14h00. Deadline is 14h00, two working days prior to publication. McGill Students (with valid ID): \$3.50 per day, 3 or more consecutive days, \$2.50 per day. McGill Employees (with staff card) \$4.50 per day, 3 or more consecutive days, \$3.50 per day. All others: \$5.00 per day, or \$4.00 per day for 3 or more consecutive days. (Prices do not include applicable GST or PST). For more information, please visit our office in person or call 398-6790 - **WE CANNOT TAKE CLASSIFIED ADS OVER THE PHONE.**

The Daily assumes no financial responsibility for errors, or damage due to errors. Ad will re-appear free of charge upon request if information is incorrect due to our error. The Daily reserves the right not to print any classified ad.

## 1 - Housing

**Roommate wanted** to share large 4 1/2 on Mountain (5 min. from McGill) furnished. VCR, microwave. Heating, parking, electricity, buzzer, intercom. \$425 (immediate occupancy.) Call Françoise 499-1610.

**Woman seeks bed** in quiet apt. 3-4 nights per week 9pm to 9am n/s n/d. 472-1777, Edeet.

**Sunny furnished room** in bright, comfortable NDG home. Metro Villa Maria. Kitchen, washing machine, etc. Short term welcome \$275/month. 481-2388.

**Bagels Nearby.** 7 1/2 to share with another student. \$225.00/month plus utilities. Near St. Urbain & Fairmount. Available January 1st, 1993. Great place. William 277-0787.

**Roommate Needed** - Beautiful 7 1/2. Jan.-June. Sherbrooke Metro. Hardwood floors, exposed brick, high ceilings, bright on two floors. 284-5309.

## 2 - Movers/Storage

**Moving/Storage.** Closed van or truck. local and long distance. Olt-Tor-Van-NY-Fla. 7 days 24 hours. Cheap. Steve 735-8148.

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**GIFT WRAPPERS** - Creative individuals, Christmas gift wrapping throughout Toronto, North York, Rexdale & Hamilton. Managers to \$7.75/hour + bonuses. Wrappers to \$6.65/hour. Wages increase proportionately to hours worked. Full/Part time, December 1-24. 416-539-8511.

**Native English, French, Spanish, Italian and German-Speakers** needed to test new translation device at Dorval airport. \$35.00 plus transportation for two hours' work. Call Steve Henderson at 843-3713 or 398-6133.

**Work from home** as a telephone psychic - Perfect for people with great communication skills or backgrounds in drama and studio arts - Flexible hours - \$6/hour to start - 935-8985.

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**Computer Must Sell** - Moving. 386-33, 4Mb RAM, 64K cache, 120Mb HD, SVGA Monitor & card (1024 x 768 x 256), 2400bd modem, Adlib sound card, mouse, tower case, lots of software: Win. 3.1, DTP, music, games, etc. Only \$1499. 935-8836 Raymond.

## 12 - Personal

**Farin, formerly of Coupe Bizarre/Haircraft** now available thru 288,8160.

**Do you dance on tables** for your tuition fees? Or busk in Metro Beauty for your baccalaureate? If so, please call Jim - a journalist who needs to know students' oddest jobs. Confidential. 398-3549 or (evenings) 274-5901.

**All I want** for my birthday is a **Ben & Jerry's** ice cream cake. Hint, hint. For info call 286-6073. 1316 de Maisonneuve W.

## 13 - Lessons/Courses

**"Law School Bound?"** For information about a complete manual designed to guide you through every step of the law admissions process - Call 1-800-661-LSAT (5728).

## 14 - Notices



**Beer and Latka Bash!!!** Saturday, November 21, 1992, 9:00 p.m. Bar Bal St. Louis, 82 Prince Arthur St. \$2.00 or \$1.00 with canned good.



**Join us for a Chinese Shabbat** dinner at Hillel House, 3460 Stanley, November 20, 1992, 6:00 p.m. \$7.00 (Dorm chits accepted) Sign up early!!!



**Interested in Studying in Israel?** Reps. from Hebrew U. & Tel Aviv U. are at Hillel today from 2:00-3:30 p.m. 3460 Stanley. 845-9171.

**Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Support** Group for young adults under 25. Meetings start Thursday, November 19th, 7 p.m., YWCA, 1355 René Levesque Blvd. W., room 315. If you are looking for an affirmative, supportive, non-judgemental group, you're welcome to attend. Call Lisa Klein of Ville Marie Social Service Centre's 'Project 10,' Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., 989-1885, ext. 240.

**Montreal Hindu Youth Convention** Saturday, November 21, 1992 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. at Dawson College, Atwater Campus, 3040 Sherbrooke St. West. For more information contact Dr. Shanta Srivastava at 335-9261 or 856-1725.

**Want to Talk?** LBGM (Lesbians, Bisexuals, Gays of McGill) sponsors two discussion groups at the Yellow Door, 3625 Aylmer, above Milton, on Fridays. A coming out support group meets at 5:30, and a discussion group meets at 7:30. A great way to find out about yourself and others.

**Confused or Curious?** LBGM (Lesbians, Bisexuals, Gays of McGill) is restarting peer counselling. Anyone interested in finding out about LBGM or has questions about their sexuality is welcome to drop by room 417, Shatner or call 398-6822. Hours are during lunch and 7 to 10, Monday through Saturday.



# THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF CKUT-FM, RADIO MCGILL

will be held on  
**Thursday December 3, 1992 at 18h00**  
in the Ballroom of the William Shatner Building  
3480 McTavish St.

Members will be asked to vote on the following proposed changes to our bylaws:

### 4. DIRECTORS

4.1. The affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by a Board of fourteen (14) Directors, each of whom at the time of his election or appointment, which election or appointment shall be made annually at the time of the annual meeting of the Members or within ten (10) days thereafter and throughout his term of office shall be a Member of the Corporation.

The Board shall be composed of the following Members:

a) One (1) Director shall be appointed by the Executive Committee of the Corporation from amongst the paid Staff Members.

b) One (1) Director shall be appointed by the Council of the Students' Society from amongst the Members of the Students' Society.

c) Two (2) Directors shall be appointed by the other Directors from amongst the members of the Montreal community.

d) Two (2) Directors shall be elected by the Full Members of the Corporation from amongst the Full Members of the Corporation other than paid Staff-Members in an election held for that purpose and conducted by the Students' Society at its expense.

e) One (1) Director shall be the Station Manager of the Corporation.

f) One (1) non-voting Director shall be the Dean of Students of the University

g) One (1) non-voting Director shall be the Principal of the University.

h) One (1) non-voting Director shall be the Public Relations Officer of the University Relations Office.

i) One (1) Director shall be appointed by the Council of the Post-Graduate Students' Society from amongst the members

of the Post-Graduate Students' Society.

j) Two (2) Directors shall be elected by the Staff-Members of the Corporation from amongst the Staff-Members of the Corporation other than paid Staff-Members. No less than one (1) of these Directors shall be, at the time of his election, a Full Member of the Corporation.

k) One (1) Director shall be appointed by the Graduates' Society of McGill University from amongst the members of the Society.

4.1. vi) The establishment of a finance committee consisting of five (5) persons of which one shall be a representative of the administration staff of the University, another shall be the President of the Corporation, another shall be the Vice-President of the Corporation and the remaining two (2) persons shall be appointed by the Directors. This committee shall discharge such functions as may be delegated to it by the Board from time to time and shall prepare on an annual basis an operating budget to be submitted to the Board when required by it. Any committee member may be removed by a majority vote by the Board of Directors.

### 5. QUORUM AND MEETINGS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

5.1. A simple majority of the Directors, shall form a quorum for any meeting of the Directors. Except as otherwise required by law, the Board may hold its meetings at such place or places as it may from time to time determine. No formal notice of such meeting shall be necessary if all the Directors are present, or if those absent signify their consent to the meeting being held in their absence. Directors' meetings may be called on direction, in writing, of either the Secretary or three (3) Directors. Notice of such meetings shall be delivered, telephoned or telegraphed to each Director not less than three (3) days before the meeting is to take place or shall be mailed to each Director not less than fourteen (14) days before the meeting is to take place including the day of such meeting.

### 8. VOTING

All Directors shall have one (1) vote at all meetings of the Board, excepting those Directors designated non-voting in

Articles 4.1 i), 4.1 g), and 4.1 h) of this by-law.

### 12. OFFICERS OF THE CORPORATION

12.1. The Officers of the Corporation shall consist of a Chairman, a President, who shall be the "Station Manager", a Vice-President, who shall be the Director appointed by the Executive Committee of the Corporation, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, or in lieu of a Secretary and a Treasurer, a Secretary-Treasurer, and such other Officers as the Board of Directors may determine by resolution from time to time.

12.2. The Chairman and the Secretary of the Corporation shall be appointed by and from amongst the Directors, excepting that Director who is the Station Manager.

### 15. DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

#### 15. d) Duties of the Treasurer

Treasurer shall keep full and accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements of the Corporation and proper books of account and shall deposit all monies or other valuable effects in the name and to the credit of the Corporation in such bank as may from time to time be designated by the Board. He shall disburse the funds of the Corporation under the direction of the Board, taking proper vouchers therefor and shall render to the Board at regular meetings thereof or whenever required of him, an account of all his transactions as treasurer and of all the financial position of the Corporation. he shall also perform such other duties as may from time to time be determined by the Board.

### 18. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

18.1. The Corporation shall have an Executive Committee composed of paid Staff-Members, and three (3) non-paid Staff-Members elected by and from amongst the Staff-Members at the Annual General Meeting of the Corporation. This Committee shall be responsible for the administration of the day to day affairs of the Corporation. The number of Members and composition of the Executive Committee and the powers and duties of this Committee shall be determined from time to time by resolution of the Board. Any Committee Member may be removed by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

The full text of the bylaws is available for consultation at the offices of CKUT-FM, 3480 McTavish St., Suite B15.

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# Research Subjects Wanted

The Department of Psychiatry of the Royal Victoria Hospital is seeking healthy volunteers to participate in a research protocol exploring the physiological effects of a medication that is occasionally used in the treatment of hypertension. Effects of this medication on brain functioning will be evaluated by means of various neuropsychological tests. Should you qualify and agree to participate, your presence will be required for two sessions, each one lasting 27 hours (from noon of one day until 3 PM the next day, with overnight hospitalization in the Clinical Investigation Unit at the Royal Victoria Hospital). Participation in the study will be remunerated.

If you are male, physically healthy, between 20 and 35 years of age without a history of psychiatric illness, and without drug or alcohol abuse in the past year, please call Tomas at 398-8481 and leave a message for an evaluation.



# There are two new time zones at McGill



*the Daily Staff Meeting*  
every Thursday



*the Daily Design and Photography Meeting*  
every Wednesday

**All are welcome • All people interested in writing, drawing, production or photography please come!**

## events

Presbyterian United Church and the Yellow Door present "The Storyteller: Tales from many traditions". Tonight: Charles Patton (Native) 20h00, Yellow Door Coffee House. 3625 Aylmer, S2. Info: 398-6243

## Malcolm X

continued from page 3

and participated in debates at many of the major universities and colleges around the world, including Harvard and Oxford, where he overwhelmed his audiences and dumbfounded his opponents with his impressive knowledge of historical events and their significance, politics (Malcolm never went to High School) and his amazing oratory skills.

Newsweek states that Malcolm "told off the white man with an eloquence, wit and confidence that was a match for any white orator" as if to say that white people are the standard by which oratory skills are to be measured. This statement is not only condescending and paternalistic but it ventures to reduce Malcolm's analysis of white society to "telling off white people" when, in fact, he was a much broader and deeper thinker than that.

In general, what we get in this Newsweek article is a suspicious and inaccurate attempt to depict Malcolm X in a favourable light without dealing with some of the fundamental issues relevant to Malcolm X's life. Despite existing evidence, it only mentions in passing that the FBI, the right arm of U.S. domestic policy, is implicated in Malcolm X's assassination.

Instead we get a whitewashed, sanitized version of Malcolm X who, according to Newsweek, was a violent, white-hating troublemaker, who later changed his ideas and beliefs to conform with the norms of American society and, in essence became "the good Malcolm." Thus Newsweek is guilty of the very type of commercialization and misappropriation of Malcolm X that it claims to denounce. The only difference is that Newsweek is more subtle and insidious.

NDP McGill presents Dawn Black, MP, NDP Women's critic, on: "Women and Politics," today in Shatner 302 at 16h00. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

The Concordia Queer Collective; Lesbians, Bisexuals, and Gays of McGill; and the Lesbians and Gays of UQAM, present a Queer dance-pop art event. \$4 admission, at Kiev, 812 Rachel East, Saturday November 21. For more info: 521-0078. Dance starts at 21h00.



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New York University is an affirmative action, equal opportunity institution. [93]

**NYU SUMMER**

The SSMU wishes to apologize to the family of the late *Dr. Donald Hebb* for material in the 'McGill Students' Handbook 92-93', which wrongly suggested a link between his work and the U.S. Department of Defence. The Students' Society regrets the error.



**McGill Volunteer Bureau**  
presents

## The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Food Drive

- Please bring canned foods and put them in boxes located in all major buildings on campus

**NOV. 16<sup>th</sup> TO DEC. 7<sup>th</sup>**

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- Reusable laminated paper products
- Reusable recycled mugs
- Reusable lunch kits, etc.

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Denmark: Copenhagen  
England: England (Thames - formerly Ealing)  
France: Ask for the "Etudier en Europe" booklet  
Ireland: Dublin University  
Sweden: Uppsala Universitet

Please note the deadlines below:

**DEADLINE: February 26, 1993: for Crepuq (U.S.A., France and England), Duke, Sweden and Switzerland**  
**February 26, 1993: Dublin**  
**March 15, 1993: Copenhagen and Alaska**

\*Minimum GPA of 3.00 is recommended

\*Background in the language of the host university is required